Water Use Efficiency and Water Quality Enhancements (\$500,000). I would ban earmarks as we know them, but as long as these earmarks are available, I'm going to apply for them in an effort to pursue federal funding opportunities for my district. For non-defense projects in the current earmarking system, I work closely with local governments, civic organizations, non-profits and business development authorities to identify and prioritize projects important to local communities in Georgia's Eighth Congressional District (and sometimes elsewhere). I only request funds for projects authorized by law for federal funding and do not do so for private parties or entities. This research project will help develop new variable-rate water application technologies for large scale irrigation. This project is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it will help produce more food with less water, and in many states, agricultural irrigation consumes the largest share of the state's water. Beneficiary: University of Georgia, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, 109 Conner Hall, Athens, GA 30602.